

Advocating for sustainability in mangroves utilization: a case study of Kilifi District, Kenya

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Abstract

The growing multiuse complexity in the values and interests in mangrove forests has led to an increase in users' conflicts as well as a number of management challenges. This study was carried out in 2010 with an aim of developing sound management mechanisms for mangrove forest in Kilifi district, Kenya based on the locals' interests and the existing policies. Through a desktop literature review and engagement of mangrove resource users and government officials in stakeholders' workshops, the study identified values, users' conflicts, management regimes and challenges in Kenya. Inadequate local community participation and private sector involvement, coastal land use changes and inadequate legislation and enforcement mechanisms were mentioned as the major hindrance to sustainable utilization of the resource. In addition, the study reviews relevant existing legislations governing the management of mangroves, identifies gaps and give recommendation on possibilities of filling.

Keywords

users' conflicts, sustainable management, policy, legislation